



Alabama

Board for Registration of Architects

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FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

July 25, 2002
The Grand Hotel
Point Clear, Alabama

September 17, 2002
Board Offices
Montgomery, Alabama

BOARD MEMBERS:

Edward L. Faddis
Marzette Fisher
Everett Hatcher
William W. Herrin, Jr.
Renis O. Jones, Jr.
Frank E. Litchfield, III

STAFF:

Cindy Gainey, Admin.
Janet Wells, Assistant

SPRING 2002 NEWSLETTER

BOARD LAUNCHES IMPROVED WEB SITE

The Board's improved web site offers more information of value to registrants, interns, and the public. The web site now offers an on-line change of address form, an on-line complaint form, and a listing of frequently asked questions. For interns, the Alabama A.R.E. application form is on the site, as well as a link to NCARB's comprehensive overview of the examination process. Former Alabama registrants who need to reactivate their registration will find a reinstatement application and associated forms.

The statutes, regulations, and code of professional conduct are hosted on the site as well as guidelines for continuing education. An improved searchable "roster" and printable registration verification are available on the site.

Take a moment and see the changes for yourself at <http://www.boa.state.al.us>. Even the address is new!!

EASY ON-LINE CEH CREDIT AVAILABLE AT PDP ONLINE

A test on the Board's statutes, regulations, and code for professional conduct is now available on line! For \$50, registrants can earn 2 structured, relevant CEHs by completing the on-line test available at <http://www.pdponline.com>. Participants will receive a certificate for verification purposes.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Information on Technical Services, the unit at Public Health which performs plan reviews of health care facility construction, can be found at <http://www.adph.org/facmgmt>.



ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINION CLARIFIES SCOPE OF INTERIOR DESIGN PRACTICE

At the request of the Alabama Board of Architects, the Opinions Division of the Attorney General's Office reviewed Section 34-15B-13 of the recently passed interior design practice act. The Opinions Division concluded as follows:

Unless exempted by statute, an interior designer may not practice interior design in a building or space within a building with a total area over 5,001 square feet or within any building intended for the assembly occupancy of people, such as schools and churches and other buildings intended for the assembly occupancy of people.

Complete text of Opinion 2002-149 can be viewed on-line on the Office of the Attorney General's web site: <http://www.ago.state.al.us>.

LAPSED REGISTRATIONS

Each year, there are a number of architects whose registration lapse for non-renewal. Many architects continue to practice while their registration is not in good standing with the Board. The Board's statutes are clear—no individual may perform or offer to perform any service within the scope of the practice of architecture unless qualified to practice in Alabama. Further, an individual who is not registered as an architect cannot use the title "architect" in any form.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The following individuals passed the Architects Registration Exam since publication of our last newsletter:

Elizabeth S. Alter, Northport, Alabama
David L. Collier, Huntsville, Alabama
Michael P. O'Kelley, Birmingham, Alabama
Thomas Williams, Jr., Chattanooga, Tennessee

PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO BOARD REGULATIONS

The Board members voted at their March 12, 2002 meeting to modify two regulations. One modification will discontinue issuance of wallet identification cards after registration renewal. The other rule addresses proposed changes to the Board's continuing education requirements. Language to be deleted is indicated with strikethroughs. New language is underlined and printed in bold type. To access the proposed modifications on our web site, click on "COMMENTS."

Written comments must be received in the Board office by Friday, July 12, 2002. Comments may also be transmitted by e-mail to Cindy Gainey at cgainey@boa.state.al.us.

100-X-2-.04 Renewal Of Registration. The Board shall have the power to set renewal fees and fees for late payment. The Board shall cause to be issued renewal notices to each registered architect from the previous year to the last known address. Registration term is for the fiscal year which begins October 1 and ends September 30 of the following year. Renewals postmarked October 1 through December 31 will be considered late, and renewals must include the late penalty established by the Board. All renewals must reflect completion of the current continuing education requirements established by the Board. ~~Identification cards for the current fiscal year will be issued to each renewing architect.~~ A roster or addendum thereto shall be published listing all registered architects in good standing with the Board. No provision is made for partial payment for a partial year. Renewal fees are due October 1st of each fiscal year.

100-X-2-.17 Continuing Education.

(1) Purpose. These rules provide for a continuing education program to insure that all registered architects remain informed of those technical and professional subjects which the Board deems appropriate to professional architectural practice and to safeguard life, health, and promote the public welfare.

(2) Policy and Administration. A Continuing Education Committee shall consist of all members of the State of Alabama Board for Registration of Architects. The Committee shall have the following duties:

- (a) to exercise general supervisory authority over the administration of these rules.
- (b) to establish regulations consistent with these rules.
- (c) to organize sub-committees and delegate executive authority.

(3) Scope and Exemptions.

(a) Scope: These rules shall apply to every Alabama registered architect as a condition for renewal of registration on an annual basis.

(b) Exemptions: A registrant may be exempt from participating in the continuing education program required by these rules for one of the following reasons:

1. A first-time new registrant by examination or first-time reciprocal registrant shall be exempt for his/her first renewal period.

2. Registrant is an emeritus status architect.

3. Registrant is a civilian who serves on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for a period of time exceeding ninety (90) consecutive days during the annual report period.

4. Resident registrants of another NCARB jurisdiction with either a mandated or voluntary program, provided that same jurisdiction accepts the Alabama continuing education requirements as satisfying their continuing education requirement, and the registrant certifies by affidavit and annual report that all requirements of that jurisdiction for current continuing education compliance and registration have been met.

5. Hardship cases will be considered by the Committee on an individual basis.

(4) Requirements.

(a) Each Alabama registered architect shall complete a minimum of twelve (12) continuing education hours each fiscal year, **beginning October 1, 1993**. One continuing education hour (CEH) shall represent a minimum of 50 minutes of actual course time. No credit will be allowed for introductory remarks, meals, breaks, or business/administration matters related to courses of study.

1. Registrants shall complete a minimum of 8 CEH's in structured course study. Structured course study shall consist of participation in education activities presented by individuals or groups qualified by professional, practical, or academic experience to conduct courses of study. **The Board may require a detailed synopsis or report of CEHs claimed.**

2. Registrants may complete a maximum of 4 CEH's in self-directed course study. Self-directed course study encourages flexibility of study by registrants and includes, but is not limited to, education activities such as self-study courses sponsored by professional associations, architecturally

significant educational tours, organized individual or group study of professional specialization topics, or reading specific profession-oriented books and articles. **The Board may require a detailed synopsis or report of CEHs claimed.**

(b) Topics for the twelve (12) continuing education hours shall ~~meet the following requirements:~~ **include the study of relevant technical and professional architectural subjects related to safeguarding life, health, property, and promoting the public welfare.**

1. ~~Eight (8) CEH's (minimum) shall include the study of relevant technical and professional architectural subjects related to safeguarding life, health, property, and promoting the public welfare.~~

2. ~~Four (4) CEH's (maximum) may consist of elective topics related to any other area in the practice of architecture.~~

(c) **Hours claimed for continuing education credit must be in addition to or outside of the registrant's normal day-to-day business activities.**

(5) Annual Report.

(a) Each registrant, at renewal of registration time, shall submit an affidavit attesting to the registrant's fulfillment of continuing education requirements during the preceding period of one fiscal year ending September 30. No carry-over of continuing education hours is permitted. Affidavits with an accompanying report concerning registrant's methods of completion of requirements shall be submitted on a form provided by the Committee.

(b) Each affidavit shall be reviewed by the Committee and may be subject to audit for verification of compliance with requirements. Registrants shall retain proof of fulfillment of requirements for a period of one year after submission in the event that the affidavit and annual report is selected for audit. **The Board may require a detailed synopsis or report for verification of CEHs claimed.**

(c) The Committee may, upon audit for verification of compliance, disallow claimed credit for continuing education hours. The registrant shall have **180 60** calendar days after notification of disallowance of credit to substantiate the original claim or earn other CEH credit which fulfills minimum requirements.

(6) Noncompliance and Sanctions. Failure to fulfill the continuing education requirements, or file the required annual report, properly completed and signed, shall result in non-renewal of an architect's certificate of registration.

**STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS
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QUOTABLE QUOTE:

Those that agree with us may not be right, but we admire their astuteness.

--Cullen Hightower

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS:

WILLIAM TILL (non-registrant), Prattville, Alabama, signed a settlement agreement and order on 1/28/02, in which he agreed not to practice architecture and paid an administrative assessment of \$500.

GEORGE EDMONDSON (#778), Montgomery, Alabama, signed a settlement agreement and order which was ratified by the Board on March 12, 2002, in which he agreed that he sealed engineering drawings not incidental to the practice of architecture and was fined \$2,500.